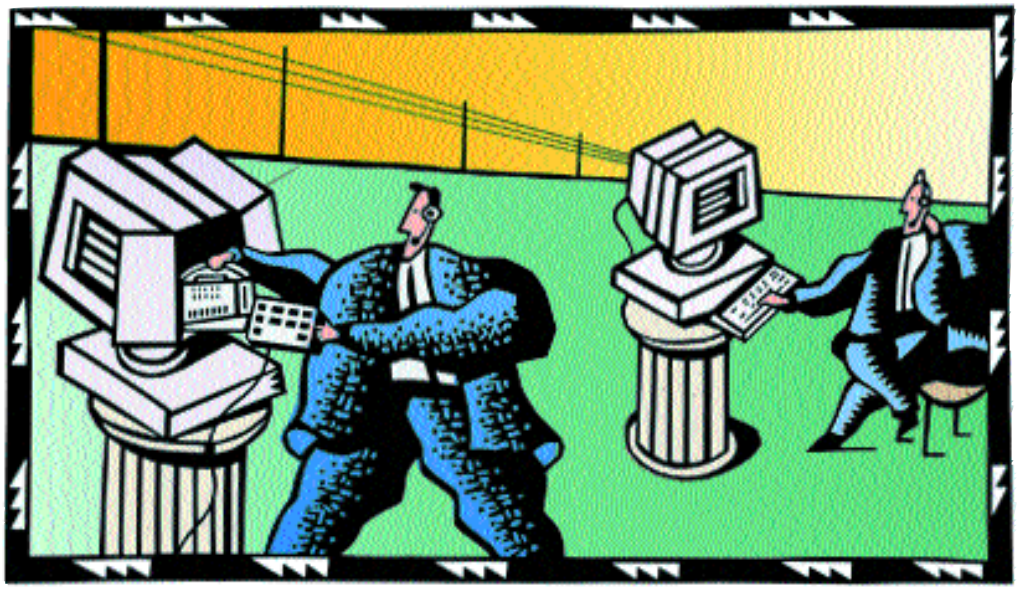
TAPI

Telephony Application Programming Interface

TAPI is a Windows®-based application programming interface that provides a flexible platform for telephony related PC applications. In an environment characterized by increasing complexity, TAPI allows for easy integration of telephone services and PC functions, resulting in improved communications capability. PC users should look for TAPI support in all their communication applications.



TECHNOLOGY PROVIDERS:

- Independent Hardware Vendors
- Independent Software Vendors
- Operating System Vendors

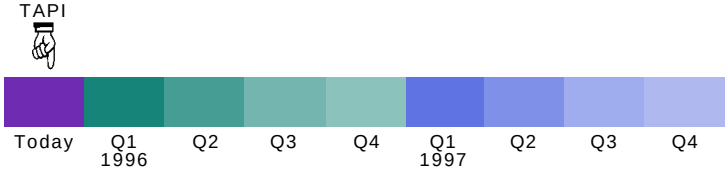
USER BENEFITS:

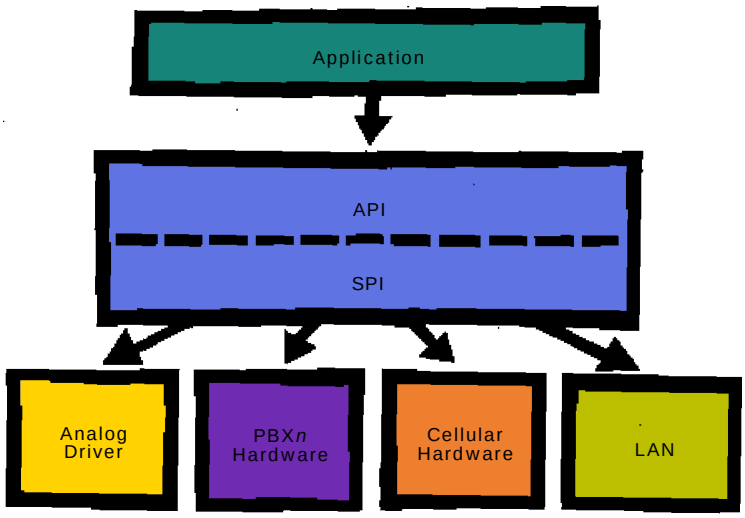
- Call control with rich telephony support
- Works with any telephone network
- PC uses the telephone as a shared resource across applications
- Multimedia stream access

In cooperation with numerous telecommunications, PC and software companies, Intel and Microsoft have created a standard interface that integrates telephone and personal computers. This standard brings many benefits to the PC. For example, TAPI allows applications to make calls, drop calls, hold, transfer, conference, park, pickup, forward, provide inbound call notification and caller-ID, personal answering service and send and detect touchtones.

Future computing is expected to have a tight integration of the PC and telephony functionality. TAPI provides a widely accepted interface that allows software developers to focus on value-added features without worrying about the underlying telephony services. This freedom allows the industry to deliver better software more quickly. TAPI provides compatibility between PC software applications and any telephony service. It allows the PC to access multiple types of multimedia stream (i.e., voice, data, video, etc.).

AVAILABILITY TIMELINE





How Does TAPI Work?

The Windows Telephony Application Programming Interface (TAPI) is part of the Microsoft Windows Open Services Architecture (WOSA), which provides a single set of open-ended interfaces to enterprise computing services. WOSA encompasses a number of APIs, providing applications and corporate developers with an open set of interfaces by which applications can be written and accessed. It includes services for data access, messaging and connectivity.

WOSA services such as TAPI consist of two interfaces. Developers write to an Applications Programming Interface (API), known as the "front-end." The other interface, referred to as the Service Provider Interface (SPI), or "back-end," is used to establish the connection to the telephone network. This model is similar to the computer industry model whereby printer manufacturers provide printer drivers for Windows-based applications. In other words, the application requesting to print would be analogous to the "front-end" API and the "back-end" would be the printer driver. Applications can combine TAPI with other capabilities of Windows to provide a combination of services. For example, an application can use TAPI to establish a connection and then use the Windows audio functionality to record and play back voice information over the connection.

Making Use of TAPI

With TAPI, application developers, telephone network switching and hardware vendors can focus on programming the applications without worrying about the telephone network or physical connection. Due to the added simplicity, software vendors can easily create PC/telephone applications and products. This will speed the integration of the telephone and PC, allowing for even greater utility from the PC.

For more information on TAPI technology please access Intel's home page on the World Wide Web at:
http://www.intel.com

For more specific information on TAPI, please refer to the following web sites:
http://www.intel.com/ial.tapi.html/
or ftp://ftp.microsoft.com/developr/tapi/

Or send Email to:
tapi@microsoft.com

To receive the Microsoft Developer Network CD-ROM, call (800)759-5474

TECHNOLOGY IMPLEMENTERS‡:

- **Independent Software Developers**
  Microsoft, Symantec, Delrina
- **Independent Hardware Developers**
  Alcatel, AT&T, Ericsson, NEC, Northern Telecom, Creative Labs, Siemens ROLM, Spectrum Signal Processing, Diamond Multimedia
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‡Partial list

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